- Fuel tie-ups are being facilitated for all type of thermal power plants including MPPs.

Efficiency of power plants

4109. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Plant Load Factor (PLF), a measure of efficiency of power plants, is higher in case of private power plants, when compared to the Central and State power plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Government proposes to take any steps to improve the efficiency of power plants, owned by the Central and State Governments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, including the amount spent for the purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) The Plant Load Factor (PLF) of private sector thermal power plants is higher as compared with the Central and State sector thermal power plants. The sector-wise details of PLF of thermal power plants (Coal/Lignite) for the last three years are given below:

Sector	PLF(%)		
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Central	82.1	84.8	86.7
State	67.1	70.6	71.9
Private	85.4	86.3	90.8
ALL INDIA:	73.6	76.8	78.6

The main reasons of low PLF of thermal power plants in the public sector, especially the State Sector Plants, are vintage units, obsolescence of technology, mismatch in the designed fuel quality and fuel actually supplied, long duration outages of the units for planned and unscheduled maintenance, etc.

(c) and (d) The following steps are being taken to improve performance of Thermal Power Stations:

(i) Renovation, modernization, uprating and life extension programmes of old and in-efficient generating units.

(ii) "Partnership in Excellence" (PIE) Programme was initiated by Ministry of Power, Government of India, in August, 2005 with a view to improve the performance of low performing units of power utilities with assistance from better performing power utilities like NTPC.

(iii) Continuous inter-action of CEA engineers with Power Stations Authorities, BHEL and other concerned agencies for sorting out operation and maintenance problems and site visits for monitoring the performance of units.

(iv) Reducing the duration of Planned Maintenance in the thermal power stations.

The total amount spent on Renovation and Modernization and Life Extension activities of Thermal Power Stations during the last three years works out to Rs. 253.06 crores and Rs. 1251.91 crores respectively.

An amount of Rs. 28.02 crores has been spent up to March, 2007 by Government of India as consultancy charges of NTPC was engaged for the purpose of PIE.

Availability of power

4110. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is gap between projected power demand and the actual power that is available for Delhi, keeping in view the ensuing summer season this year;

(b) whether the Central Government has agreed to increase Delhi's share in Central's unallocated power reserve, from the existing 22 per cent to 40 per cent; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, indicating whether Delhi would also be getting power from other sources like Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), etc., to meet its increased demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) According to Government of Delhi, the estimated demand for power in Delhi during the summer season is likely to be around 4,400 MW and Delhi is not likely to experience shortage of power subject to receipt of power against the tie-ups for power already made by the Discoms of Delhi.

(b) and (c) The allocation of unallocated power is reviewed from time to time and the requests for higher allocation are considered depending upon the prevailing conditions of power supply position in the constituents of Northern Region. In the last revision of allocation of unallocated power in the Northern Region, effective from 13.04.2008, the allocation of Delhi from the unallocated power of Central Generating Stations of Northern Region has been enhanced from 0-6% (0—82 MW) to 0-22% (0—301 MW) in different time-slots of the day and from unallocated power of Rajasthan APS Unit-3&4, from 'nil' to 0-14 MW.

According to the information received from BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) and BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL), they have tied up power through banking arrangement from Uttarakhand and Karnataka. North Delhi Power Limited (NDPL) has also reported to have made banking arrangements with Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka States during the winter for receiving power during peak hours in summer season.

In terms of the Power Purchase Agreement signed between DVC and Delhi Transco Ltd., 400 MW power was to be made available from December, 2007 onwards. Supply of 300 MW of Power was linked with the commissioning of Chandrapura Unit No. 7 & 8 which is reported to have been delayed.

Advanced power evacuation system

4111. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) is experimenting with what could be world's most advanced power evacuation system-a 1200 KV power transmission line-capable of evacuating 6,000-7,000 MW of power;